

REMARKS:

Claims 1-9 and 11 are in the case and presented for consideration.

The claims have been amended to address the Examiner's rejection of claims 6, 9 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 112 and are now believed to be in proper form.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowability of claim 9 if amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 and presented in independent form. New claim 11 contains this subject matter and, along with its dependent claims, are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

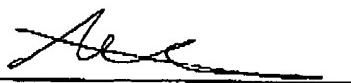
Claim 1 has also been amended to better define the invention and claims 2-9 have also been amended to be consistent with amended claim 1. For the reasons set forth below, all of the claims are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3, 4, 5 and 7 as being fully anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,781,422 to Kimble. Comparing Kimble and amended claim 1, there are following structural points of distinction: Kimble shows a casing 16, shaft 75,36, first friction disks 54, second friction disks 34, a nut 86 on the end of the shaft, and a spring between the disks and nut. However, the holder and shaft in claim 1 of the present application differ from the casing and shaft of Kimble in terms of the their concrete shape and structure, and furthermore, those of Kimble never suggest the above mentioned shape and structure of the present invention in claim 1. Moreover, the first friction disks in the present application are clearly different from those of Kimble at 54, from the point of view of their shape and structure (in that locking portions 2c and 10c are connected to the locking grooves 1f of the holder 1, and as for these points of distinction, Kimble does not suggest anything).

Claims 2 to 8 are believed to further distinguish the present invention over the

combination of references including U.S. Patents 6,233,485 to Takanashi and 6,530,123 to Wahlstedt, so that the application and all the claims are believed to be in condition for allowance and further favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter C. Michalos
Reg. No. 28,643
Attomey for Applicants
(845) 359-7700

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NOTARO & MICHALOS P.C.
100 Dutch Hill Road, Suite 110
Orangeburg, New York 10962-2100

Customer No. 21706